

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3980

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2054

EXDIS

DEPT PASS DIA WASHDC, USCINCEUR, USDOCOSOUTH, USNMR SHAPE BEL

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY TU GR

SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATION: DE CUELLAR CONCLUDES THAT A SIXTH
ROUND IS NOT NOW FEASIBLE

REF: (A) ATHENS 7271 (NOTAL), (B) NICOSIA 2006

1. I CALLED ON UNSYG SPECIAL REP DE CUELLAR EVENING JULY 21.
DE CUELLAR WAS BLUNT: "WE ARE IN A VACUUM; THERE IS NOT
POSSIBILITY OF AN AGREED SCENARIO FOR A SIXTH ROUND."

2. DE CUELLAR REVIEWED HIS CONVERSATIONS IN ANKARA,
ATHENS, AND WITH MAKARIOS JULY 20. HE NOTED THAT
BOTH THE GREEK AND TURKISH GOVERNMENTS HAD
WARNED AGAINST THE DANGERS OF WALDHEIM'S CALLING FOR A
SIXTH ROUND IN AUGUST WHEN THE RESULT WOULD BE FAILURE.
GIVEN HIS SOUNDINGS, DE CUELLAR FELT IT COULD NOT BE OTHER-
WISE. THE TURKISH NEGOTIATOR WOULD INSIST ON HIS
MULTIPLE CRITERIA. THE GREEK WOULD REJECT THESE. THUS,
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ANY MEETING MIGHT END WITH THREE COMMUNIQUE, RESPECTIVELY

FROM PAPADOPOULOS, ONAN AND WALDHEIM. THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WOULD BE TERMINATED. IT WAS WALDHEIM'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS GOOD OFFICES MANDATE TO ENSURE THAT THIS DID NOT HAPPEN.

3. DE CUELLAR EMPHASIZED UNDERLYING NEGATIVE FACTORS. THE GOT, HE FELT, HAD REALLY DECIDED THAT MOVEMENT ON CYPRUS AT THIS TIME WOULD BE POLITICALLY TOO RISKY. BITSIOS, ALSO, COULD HARDLY HAVE BEEN MORE NEGATIVE. CLEARLY, GREECE HAD DECIDED, PERHAPS OUT OF CONCERN FOR THE AEGEAN PROBLEM, NOT TO GET IN THE WAY OF MAKARIOS' INTENDED COURSE. FOR HIS PART, THE ARCHBISHOP IS HEADED FOR COLOMBO, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND MAXIMUM INTERNATIONAL CENSURE OF THE TURKS. HE WILL NOT NOW COOPERATE IN ANYTHING WHICH CREATES AN IMPRESSION OF PROGRESS.

4. DE CUELLAR SAID THAT PUTTING ALL THIS TOGETHER HE SAW ONLY ONE POSSIBLE WAY OF KEEPING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS ALIVE AGAINST THE DAY WHEN ATTITUDES MIGHT CHANGE. HE HAD RECOMMENDED TO WALDHEIM THAT HE, DE CUELLAR, CALL FOR AND PRESIDE OVER A RESUMPTION OF HUMANITARIAN TALKS IN NICOSIA BETWEEN PAPADOPOULOS AND ONAN. ON THE SIDE, HE WOULD USE THESE TO CONTINUE TO PROBE FOR AGREEMENT ON A PROCEDURAL "COMMON BASIS" FOR EVENTUAL RESUMPTION OF THE POLITICAL NEGOTIATION. WALDHEIM HAD AGREED TO THIS SOURCE. SO HAD MAKARIOS, BUT WITH THE CAVEAT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE ANCILLARY ASPECT OF THE RESUMED HUMANITARIAN TALKS, CONSISTENT WITH HIS DETERMINATION TO AVOID ANY IMPRESSION OF PROGRESS. WHILE A FORMAL REACTION FROM DENKTASH HAD NOT BEEN OBTAINED DUE TO A LAST-MINUTE CONFUSION IN THE SCHEDULING OF DE CUELLAR'S PLANNED JULY 21 APPOINTMENT, BARUTCU (VISITING FROM ANKARA) HAD INDICATED HIS CONCURRENCE.

5. AS TO NEXT STEPS, WALDHEIM WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONSULTING THE US AND EUROPEANS REGARDING HIS DECISION. IN ALL PROBABILITY, THE SYG WOULD AVOID MAKING ANY STATEMENT BEFORE HIS IMMINENT DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA EXCEPT, IF ASKED, TO STATE THAT HE WAS AWAITING HIS SPECIAL REP'S ASSESSMENT. AFTER RETURNING FROM GENEVA, HE COULD BE EXPECTED TO ISSUE SOME CONFIDENTIAL

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CAREFUL STATEMENT REGARDING RESUMPTION OF THE HUMANITARIAN TALKS, COUPLED WITH SOMETHING GENERAL ON HIS HAVING CHARGED HIS SPECIAL REP WITH THE NEED TO KEEP UNDER CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT THE PROSPECTS FOR A RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATION ON AN AGREED BASIS--THE LATTER PHRASED IN SUCH A WAY TO CONFORM WITH MAKARIOS' CAVEAT.

6. DE CUELLAR OBSERVED THAT TO BE REALISTIC ONE COULD NOT

EXPECT A RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATION UNTIL EARLY NEXT YEAR. LEAVING ASIDE BASIC DISAGREEMENTS, THERE WERE SIMPLY TOO MANY INTRUDING FACTORS: COLOMBO, THE GREEK CYPRIOT ELECTIONS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CYPRUS DEBATE LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE LATE OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER, THE SYG ELECTION.

7. I TOLD DE CUELLAR THAT ALL THIS WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTING TO MY GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS WHICH HAD BEEN URGING WALDHEIM TO BE DECISIVE ON CONVENING A SIXTH ROUND. I EXPECTED THAT THERE WOULD BE STATIC IN THE SYG'S INTENDED CONSULTATIONS. DE CUELLAR ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT SAID THERE WAS NO OTHER COURSE OPEN TO WALDHEIM.
CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, MEETING AGENDA, NEGOTIATIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI02054
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: TEXT ALSO ON MICROFILM
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P760121-0054, D760282-0394
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760732/aaaabbzy.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 ATHENS 7271, 76 NICOSIA 2006
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS NEGOTIATION: DE CUELLAR CONCLUDES THAT A SIXTH ROUND IS NOT NOW FEASIBLE
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, US, (PEREZ DE CUELLAR, JAVIER), (DE CUELLAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006